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Remarks

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Drawings Objection

The Examiner's comments concerning reference character 41 has been noted and reviewed. It appears that the error is in the specification rather than the drawing. Accordingly a correction has been made at line 16 of page 10 to change "host system 41" to read "host system 42".

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 112

Claims 8 and 15 have been amended taking into account the Examiner's comments. It is believed the amendments overcome the rejection of these claims.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 101

Claim 24 has been amended to deal with the Examiner's rejection and now recites that the computer program executes on the processor of the communications network node. It is believed this deals with the rejection of claim 24. Claim 25 depends from claim 24 and is submitted to be allowable now that suitable amendments have been made to claim 24.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 103

All independent claims have been amended to recite that computer software code is stored in a SIP message as described for example on page 2 of the description at lines 18 to 20.

It is noted that Arnold *et al* merely discloses the passing of data and parameters between a client 302 and a server 316. The data is marshalled by a remote stub 310 in the client and is "unmarshalled" in a remote skeleton 322 in the server 316. Thus no software code is stored

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in a message passing between the client and server but rather data and parameters to be processed jointly by the remote stub and remote skeleton and ultimately by the remote computer method 320 (see for example column 6 lines 9 to 11, lines 17 to 19 and lines 29 to 30).

It is noted therefore that Arnold does not disclose "storing computer software code in a . . . message". As acknowledged also by the Examiner, Arnold is not concerned with SIP messages.

Furthermore, Handley et al discloses only the notion of a message body in a SIP message. The portion referred to by the Examiner of RFC 2543, does not disclose what may be contained within the SIP message body. RFC 2543 does not propose the storage of software code within the SIP message.

Thus it is submitted that the combination of teachings of Arnold et al and Handley et al fails to disclose the recited feature of storing software code in a SIP message.

For similar reasons (and following corresponding amendments) it is submitted that claims 20, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32 and 33 are also non-obvious over Arnold et al in view of Handley et al.

The remaining claims all depend from one of the aforementioned independent claims and are therefore also non-obvious at least by virtue of their dependencies.

The rejection under USC § 103 is therefore respectfully traversed.
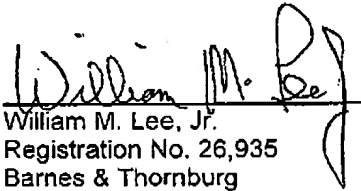
Species Election

It is noted that claim 1 is a generic claim to the notion of storing software code in a SIP message. Claims 16-19 recite detailed applications of this notion and claims 27 to 33 recite yet more detailed applications of this notion. It is submitted therefore that all claims relate to the same species, namely the general concept of sending software code in a SIP message

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to be executed at a second node in a communications network, and thus should remain in the application.

In view of the above, further and favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

June 4, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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